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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/584,958	07/02/2007	Otto Schempp	A4-145 US	9974
23683 7590 11/20/2007 MOLEX INCORPORATED 2222 WELLINGTON COURT LISLE, IL 60532			EXAMINER HEALY, BRIAN	
			ART UNIT 2883	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 11/20/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/584,958

**Applicant(s)**

SCHEMPP, OTTO

**Examiner**

BRIAN M. HEALY

**Art Unit**

2883

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 10, 11 and 20-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-9 and 12-19 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06/30/2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 20060630
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_

***Priority***

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

***Claim Objections***

2. Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities: there is no antecedent basis in claim 1 for the term, "the collar-like guide element". It is thought by the Examiner that Applicant meant for claim 11 to be dependent upon claim 10. Appropriate correction is required.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 5-9 and 12-19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Neither the applied Anderson et. al. reference, U.S.P. No. 6,443,627, (discussed below) or any of the other references of record teaches or suggests the specific spring arrangements recited in claims 5-9, the collar-like guide elements with lateral play, claim 12, or the measurement range used in claim 13, or the fiber holder with stop sections arranged in front of the collar-like guide element, claims 14-17, the intermediate sections used in conjunction with the first and second guide sections, claim 18 or the connector arrangement used with the hybrid connections (claim 19).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-4,10,11 and 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Anderson et. al., U.S.P. No. 6,443,627.

6. Anderson et. al. 627' teaches (Figs.1-9) a connector arrangement for connecting optical fiber connectors comprising: first and second optical fiber sections 20-1,20-2 which are also include two sleeve members 22, a connector housing 110,100,10 with front and rear mating connector hollow receptacles with the two sleeve members 22 placed in fiber holder receptacles 153 which is attached to a common fiber holder/connecting section 50 that is constructed as an integral unit and used with cylindrical guides 60,58 for insertion into the connector housing 110 so that front fiber connectors 20-1.20-2 can be connected to rear fiber connectors 30-3,30-4 or some other detector or electro-optic receiver. Anderson et. al. 627' also teaches that springs are used with prior art optical fiber connectors (See Col.1, lines 16-37). Anderson et. Al. 627' does not specifically teach that his connector is used for establishing multimedia connections in motor vehicles or that the connections made can be made "permanent".

7. The recitation of use inside of a motor vehicle represents an "intended use" which would have been well within the purview of a skilled artisan as fibers and fiber

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connectors have a wide variety of uses in mass communications. It is also considered that making connections or sleeve structures "permanent" as opposed to temporary is also well within the purview of a skilled artisan.

8. It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the optical fiber connector structure used with an integral common fiber holder, as is taught by Anderson et. al. 627', to use the fiber connector structure in a motor vehicle or use "permanent" connections, for the purpose of utilizing fiber connectors for multimedia displays in vehicles.

9. A copy of PTO-1449 will be included in this office action.

10. The following references are cited by the Examiner as being pertinent prior art: Driscoll et. al., U.S.P. No. 6,357,934 (Figs.1-9), Pepe, U.S.P. Patent Application Publication No. U.S. 2007/0047877A1 (Figs.1-14), Anderson et. al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. U.S. 2002/0090177A1 (Figs.1-9) and Briggs et. al., U.S.P. No. 5,091,991 (Figs.1-7).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BRIAN M. HEALY whose telephone number is (571)272-2347. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Frank Font can be reached on (571)272-2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

**Brian M. Healy**

**Primary Examiner**

**Art Unit: 2883**

**Phone: (571)272-2347**

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BRIAN HEALY  
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER